

HIV/AIDS Profile: The Gambia

Demographic Indicators

Population (1,000s)	1,367	Growth Rate (%)	3.2
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000)		Life Expectancy	
Both Sexes	79	Both Sexes	53
Male	86	Male	51
Female	72	Female	55
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000)	42	Crude Death Rate (per 1,000)	13
Percent Urban	37	Total Fertility Rate	5.8
Note: Above indicators are for 2000.			

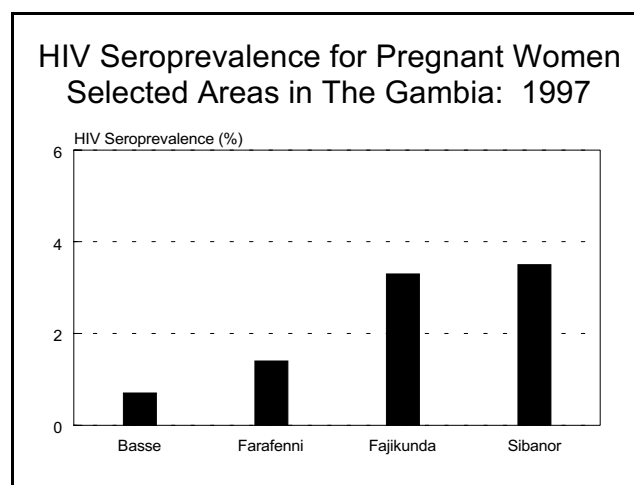
Estimated % of adults living with HIV/AIDS, end 1999	2.0 %		
Cumulative AIDS rate (per 1,000) as of 12/31/97	0.43		
Cumulative AIDS cases as of 12/31/97	544		
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Reference Bureau, UNAIDS, World Health Organization.			

Epidemiological Data

Epidemic State: Generalized

Similar to other countries in West Africa, HIV2 is the dominant strain of virus. Among pregnant women, seroprevalence had already reached an unacceptably high level by 1997.

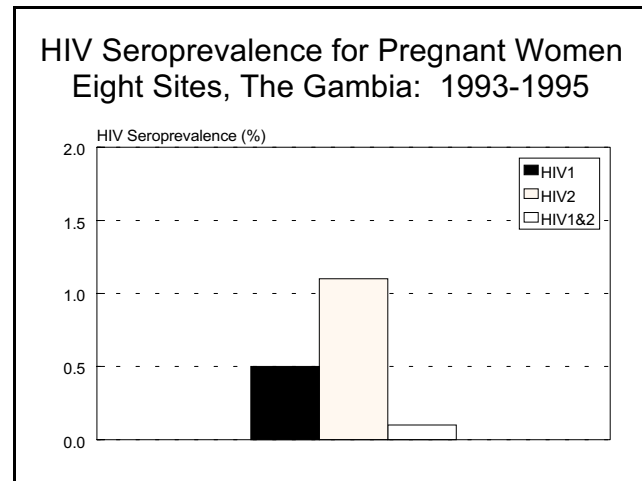
- HIV seroprevalence in 1997 among pregnant women attending antenatal clinics in the Gambia ranged from 1 percent in Basse to 4 percent in Sibanor.



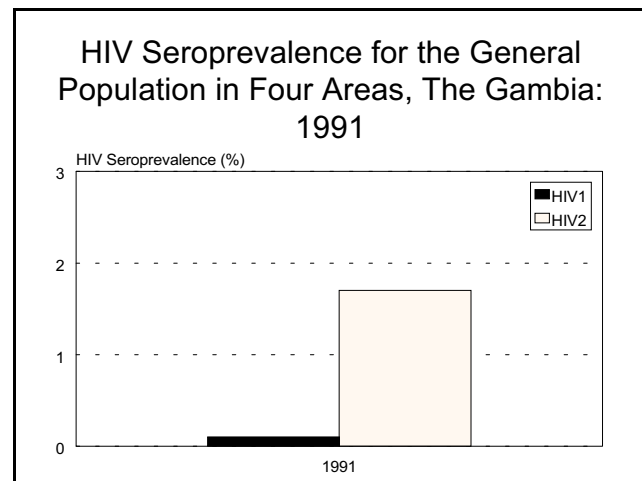
Source: International Programs Center, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data Base, June 2000.

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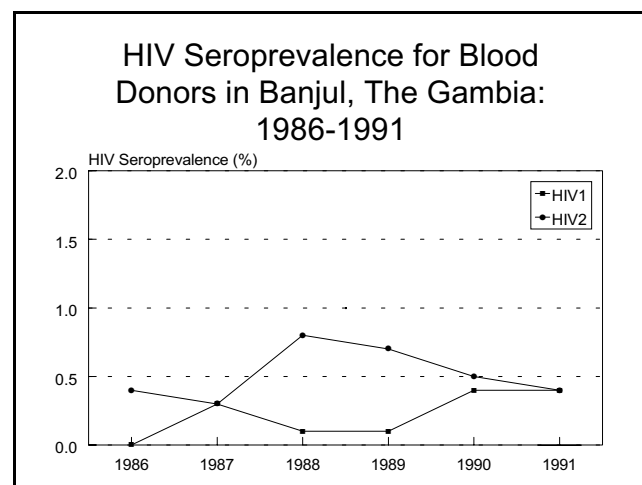
- In the eight largest antenatal clinics in the country, HIV2 was the predominant strain among pregnant women tested during 1993-95. Slightly over 1 percent were HIV2 positive while 0.5 percent were positive for HIV1. Just 0.1 percent were positive for both HIV1 and HIV2 infection.



- A serosurvey carried out in greater Banjul and three other areas found about 2 percent of a sample of adults infected with HIV2 but only 0.1 percent infected with HIV1. All those infected with HIV1 were women.

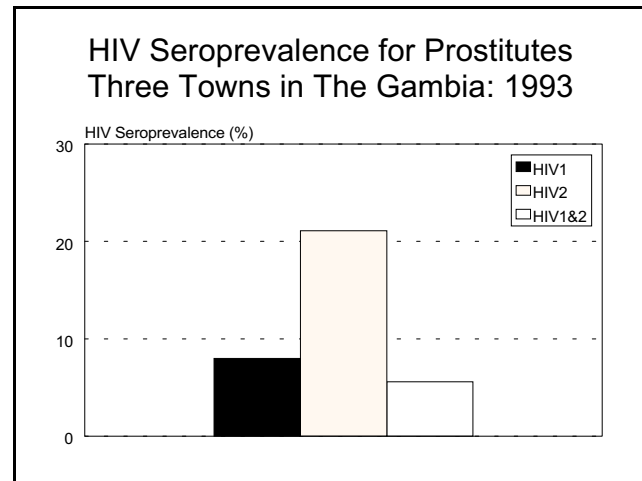


- HIV infection among blood donors has remained under 1 percent as indicated by this study from Banjul. HIV1 has fluctuated between 0 and 0.4 percent of donors. On the other hand, HIV2 appears to have peaked in 1988 and has gradually declined to around 0.4 percent in 1991.

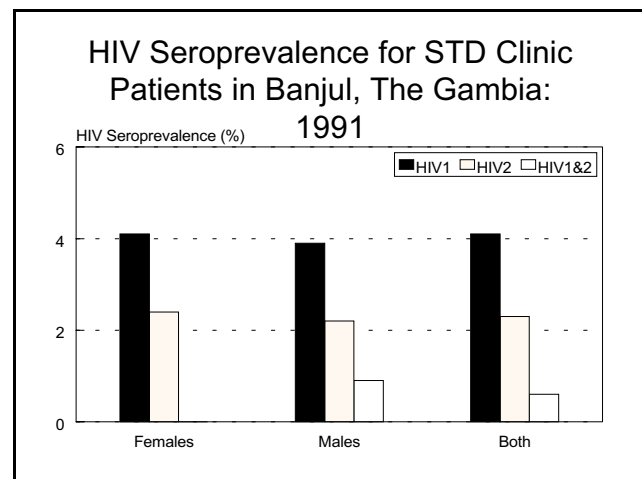


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- In this 1993 study conducted among prostitutes in three urban towns (Banjul, Basse, and Farafenni) in the Gambia showed 21 percent were infected with HIV2 and 8 percent were infected with HIV.1 About 6 percent of the prostitutes were dually infected with HIV1 and HIV2.



- In Banjul, the capital city, a seroprevalence study of STD patients found somewhat equal levels of infection in both sexes. The most noticeable deviation occurred with dual infection. None of the females showed dual infection, while nearly 1 percent of males were so infected.



Seroprevalence of HIV-1 for Pregnant Women Gambia, The: 1997



U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division,
International Programs Center,
Country Profile, September 2000.

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